

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 HA-05 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12

EUR-12 NEA-10 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 STR-07 PM-05

H-02 INR-10 L-03 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 BIB-01 ACDA-12

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O P 301321Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7421

INFO NAM COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 BELGRADE 5563

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORC

SUBJ: BELGRADE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE: DAY V - GENERAL

DEBATE ENDS; MEETING PROLONGED; PRESS CONFERENCE

STATEMENTS

1. SUMMARY: GENERAL DEBATE IN THE BELGRADE NAM FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE ENDED JULY 29, WITH 17 SPEAKERS TAKING THE FLOOR. THERE WAS ANOTHER HEATED EXCHANGE INVOLVING CUBA, SOMALIA, ZAIRE, BENIN, CAMBODIA AND ETHIOPIA, ALL EXERCISING THEIR "RIGHT OF REPLY." AT ONE POINT YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTER VRHOVEC FROM THE CHAIR APPEALED TO DELEGATES TO REFRAIN FROM POLEMICS. SEVERAL KEY DELEGATIONS HELD PRESS CONFERENCES, INCLUDING THE CUBAN, YUGOSLAV, LIBYAN AND MOROCCAN.

2. YUGOSLAV PRESS COVERAGE OF THE GENERAL DEBATE NOTES THE ACRIMONIOUS TONE OF SOME OF THE EXCHANGES, INCLUDING CUBAN REPRESENTATIVE MALMIERCA'S ACCUSATION THAT THE "LARGEST IMPERIALIST STATE" IS ATTEMPTING TO CLOG THE HAVANA CONFERENCE. YUGOSLAV PRESS DOES NOT, HOWEVER, CARRY MALMIERCA'S SPECIFIC CHARGE THAT "15 DELEGATIONS HERE ARE SPEAKING WITH A YANKEE UNCLASSIFIED

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ACCENT", WHICH FOREIGN NEWSMEN HAVE OF COURSE PICKED UP.

3. ALTHOUGH UNTIL LATE IN THE EVENING THE YUGOSLAVS WERE STILL HOLDING OUT THE PROSPECT OF CLOSING THE BELGRADE NAM CONFERENCE WITH A LATE NIGHT PLENARY, THIS BECAME IMPOSSIBLE WHEN NEITHER POLITICAL NOR ECONOMIC COMMITTEE FINISHED WORK ON THEIR PORTIONS OF THE CONFERENCE FINAL DOCUMENTS. IT HAS NOW BEEN ANNOUNCED

THAT THE PLENARY WILL RECONVENE SUNDAY, JULY 30, FIRST IN CLOSED SESSION TO CONSIDER THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PORTIONS OF THE FINAL DOCUMENTS, THEN IN OPEN SESSION TO APPROVE THAT DOCUMENT FORMALLY AND TO HEAR A CLOSING SPEECH BY YUGOSLAV FOREIGN SECRETARY AND BELGRADE NAM CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN VRHOVEC.

4. ADDRESSING THE PLENARY DURING THE LAST DAY'S GENERAL DEBATE WERE REPRESENTATIVES OF MALDIVES, BENIN, ETHIOPIA, GABON, TOGO, CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE, CAMAROON, VENEZUELA, MEXICO, BRAZIL, BOLIVIA, ZAPU, SOCIALIST PARTY OF PUERTO RICO, ORGANIZATION OF AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY, AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS OF SOUTH AFRICA, AZANIA, AND SWAPO. HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW. END SUMMARY.

5. CUBAN, OTHERS EXERCISE "RIGHT OF REPLY." DURING THE MORNING PLENARY GENERAL DEBATE, CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER MALMIERCA CLAIMED THE RIGHT OF REPLY AND HARSHLY CRITICIZED CERTAIN STATES FOR TRYING TO BLOCK THE HAVANA NAM SUMMIT CONFERENCE. THOSE WHO ARE AGAINST HOLDING THE NEXT NAM SUMMIT IN HAVANA, HE SAID, "ARE PROVING THAT THEY ARE SPLITTERS OF THE MOVEMENT." ACCORDING TO TANJUG, MALMIERCA "ACCUSED THE LARGEST IMPERIALIST STATE OF ATTEMPTING TO CLOG THE CONFERENCE. HE FURTHER CHARGED OMAN, MOROCCO, SOMALIA, ZAIRE, EGYPT AND CAMBODIA WITH TRYING TO SPLIT THE MOVEMENT." BBC COVERAGE OF MALMIERCA'S REMARKS INCLUDES CHARGE THAT "15 DELEGATIONS HERE ARE SPEAKING WITH A YANKEE ACCENT."

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6. THE SOMALIAN DELEGATE ROSE TO TAKE ISSUE WITH THE CUBAN, AS DID DELEGATES FROM ZAIRE, AND CAMBODIA. AT THIS POINT YUGOSLAV FM VRHOVEC APPEALED FROM THE CHAIR FOR RESTRAINT.

7. CUBAN HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE. CUBAN POLITBURO MEMBER CARLOS RAFAEL RODRIQUEZ EXPRESSED CUBA'S SATISFACTION WITH EVENTS AT THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE IN A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS ON JULY 29. HE SAID CUBA RECOGNIZES THAT THE VITAL NEEDS OF THE NON-ALIGNED INCLUDE STRENGTHENING SOLIDARITY. HE REFERRED TO THE "IMPORTANT CONTACTS" HE HAS HAD WITH YUGOSLAV LEADERS IN BELGRADE, DISCUSSIONS WHICH HE TERMED "VERY SATISFACTORY," "THERE WERE MANY WHO CAME TO BELGRADE 'PREPARED' TO FIND CONFLICT BETWEEN A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES," RODRIQUEZ SAID. "WE DID NOT GIVE THEM THAT SATISFACTION. THERE HAS BEEN A DIALOGUE. WE ARE WORKING FOR UNITY, FOR MUTUAL RELAXATION OF TENSIONS, AND FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF NON-ALIGNMENT." AS FOR THOSE WHO CRITICIZE CUBA'S ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA, RODRIQUEZ TERMED THEM "AN UN-QUALIFIED MINORITY, COUNTRIES WHICH VIOLATE THE PRINCIPLES OF NON-ALIGNMENT." HE NAMED AMONG THESE SOMALIA, ZAIRE AND CAMBODIA, AS WELL AS EGYPT. AS FOR CUBA'S ATTITUDE TOWARD BLOCKS, RODRIQUEZ SAID "THE PRINCIPAL ENEMIES OF NON-ALIGNMENT ARE

IMPERIALISM, COLONIALISM AND NEOCOLONIALISM." BLOCS MUST BE
"DISTINGUISHED FROM EACH OTHER" BECAUSE NON-ALIGNED AND SOCIALIST
COUNTRIES ARE "PASSING THROUGH THE SAME PHASE OF HISTORY."
CUBA IS CONVINCED "NON-ALIGNMENT AND SOCIALISM ARE MUTUAL ALLIES."

8. ACCORDING TO THE "POLITIKA" ACCOUNT OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE,
RODRIQUEZ WAS ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT CUBA'S "RELATIONSHIP WITH
HEGEMONISM AND HEGEMONY AND HOW CUBA DISTINGUISHED THESE
TWO TERMS." RODRIQUEZ' APPARENT ANSWER WAS TO REFER TO THE
PREPARATIONS WHICH HE SAID ARE ALREADY UNDERWAY FOR THE HAVANA
SUMMIT, WHICH INCLUDE "FURTHER DEBATE ABOUT THE PRINCIPLES ON
NON-ALIGNMENT."

9. RODRIQUEZ EXPLAINED CUBA'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE ERITREAN
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SITUATION THUS: "DURING THE FEUDAL PERIOD OF HAILE SELASSIE,
CUBA SUPPORTED THE ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT AS THE MOST
DEMOCRATIC FORCE, BUT AFTER THE FUNDAMENTAL REVOLUTIONARY
CHANGES WHICH HAVE CHANGED THE SOCIAL SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA,
CUBA'S PRESENT POSITION IS THAT THE QUESTION OF ERITREA IS
AN INTERNAL QUESTION FOR ETHIOPIA TO RESOLVE."

10. PRESS CONFERENCE BY YUGOSLAV OFFICIAL KOMATINA. SENIOR
YUGOSLAV FOREIGN SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL KOMATINA GAVE AN INTER-
VIEW ON BELGRADE TV JULY 29. KEEPING A STIFF UPPER LIP,
KOMATINA MAINTAINED THAT ALTHOUGH THERE HAVE BEEN CONFLICTS
AT THE CONFERENCE "WHICH WE MAKE NO ATTEMPT TO CONCEAL BUT ON
THE CONTRARY OPENLY DISCUSS," THESE ARE NOT THE DOMINANT
CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BELGRADE NAM MEETING. "ON THE CONTRARY,
"TITO HAS PUT HIS STAMP ON THIS MEETING WHICH WILL MAKE A
GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO THE RESOLUTION OF PROBLEMS WITHIN THE
MOVEMENT." "NOT EVERYTHING HAS GONE SMOOTHLY, THERE HAVE BEEN
DISSONANT TONES," KOMATINA ACKNOWLEDGED. THIS CAN BE NO
SURPRISE. OF COURSE, KOMATINA CONTINUED, THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE
COULD NOT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED TO RESOLVE ALL PROBLEMS WITHIN
THE MOVEMENT. HOWEVER, "WE ARE GOING TO DEAL WITH OUR PROBLEMS,
AND WE ARE GOING TO FIND UNITY, NOT IN THE SENSE OF
MONOLITHISM, BUT IN THE SENSE OF JOINT ACTION ALONG NAM
PRINCIPLES OF NON-ALIGNMENT."

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11. LIBYAN PRESS CONFERENCE. LIBYAN FOREIGN MINISTER TREIKI TOLD NEWSMEN "IMPERIALISM CANNOT BE EQUATED WITH SOCIALISM" BECAUSE THE WESTERN IMPERIALISTS SUPPORT ZIONISM AND RACISM AND ARE AGAINST THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES STRUGGLES FOR LIBERATION. TREIKI SAID FURTHER "THERE IS NO REASON NOT TO COOPERATE WITH THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES IN VIEW OF OUR COMMON ENEMY." HE ALSO SUPPORTED THE ETHIOPIAN POSITION ON ERITREA AND THE POLISARIO NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT IN THE WESTERN SAHARA.

12. MOROCCAN PRESS CONFERENCE. MOROCCO'S FM BOUCETTA DENOUNCED ALL MILITARY INTERVENTION IN AFRICA. HOWEVER, HE DEFENDED THE MOROCCAN MILITARY EXPEDITIONARY EFFORT IN ZAIRE AS BEING CONSISTENT WITH THE OAU CHARTER. MOROCCAN TROOPS WILL NOT REMAIN LONG IN ZAIRE, BOUCETTA SAID. HE ALSO REAFFIRMED MOROCCO'S POSITION ON OTHER ISSUES, INCLUDING MOROCCAN "RESERVATION WITH REGARD TO HOLDING THE NEXT NAM SUMMIT IN HAVANA" AND OBJECTIONS TO THE WAY THE COORDINATING BUREAU NOW OPERATES.

13. DURING THE PLENARY GENERAL DEBATE MORNING OF JULY 29, ETHIOPIAN FM GEDLE-GIORGIS ATTACHED THOSE GREAT POWERS WHO ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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SEEKING TO "REVERSE THE PROCESS OF DETENTE." THE GREATEST DANGER TO THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT IS INCREASED PRESSURE OF IMPERIALISM, ESPECIALLY IN AFRICA. THE ETHIOPIAN WARNED AGAINST "MANUEVERS BY IMPERIALISM TO ESTABLISH A SO-CALLED PAN AFRICAN SECURITY FORCE UNDER NATO AUSPICES." GEDLE-GIORGIS ALSO CONDEMNED THE "CONSPICUOUS SILENCE" OF THE NAM WITH REGARD TO "AGGRESSION" FROM SOMALIA. THERE ARE TWO PRINCIPLES WHICH GUIDE ETHIOPIAN POLICIES, GEDLE-GIORGIS SAID, "NON-ALIGNMENT AND STRIVING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE ON THE BASIS OF SOCIALISM."

14. TOGO. TOGO DELEGATE RANDOLPH EMPHASIZED THAT TOGO WOULD NEVER DEVIATE FROM THE BASIC NAM PRINCIPLES. "WE WILL CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE AGAINST IDEOLOGICAL BLOCS AND HEGEMONISM."

15. CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE. THE CAR REPRESENTATIVE CHALLENGED THE THESIS THAT THERE ARE "ALWAYS NATURAL ALLIES" OF NON-ALIGNMENT AMONG THE GREAT POWER BLOCS, POINTING OUT "THEIR INTERESTS ARE NOT ALWAYS IDENTICAL TO THE INTERESTS OF THE AFRICAN PEOPLES."

16. CAMEROON. CAMEROON REPRESENTATIVE OYONO CHARACTERIZED THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AS "COMPLICATED AND WORRISOME BECAUSE OF PRESSURES AND HEGEMONISTIC RIVALRIES WHICH STEM FROM ANTAGONISM BETWEEN THE GREAT POWERS." ALL ATTEMPTS TO UNDERMINE THE PRINCIPLES AND GOALS OF NON-ALIGNMENT MUST BE REJECTED. "OUR MOVEMENT IS NEITHER AN ORGANIZATION NOR BLOC WHICH HAS A CENTER. IT IS MADE UP OF SOVEREIGN STATES WHO ADJUST THEIR RELATIONSHIPS IN KEEPING WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUALITY."

17. GABON. GABON FOREIGN MINISTER NGOMO-OBIANG DESCRIBED THE NAM AS "NEITHER PRO-WESTERN NOR PRO-EASTERN, NEITHER PRO-COMMUNIST NOR PRO-CAPITALIST," FIRMLY REJECTING THE THESIS UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT THERE EXISTS ANY "NATURAL ALLIANCE BETWEEN THE MOVEMENT AND SOME OTHER COUNTRIES." SUCH CLAIMS ARE CONTRARY TO THE PRINCIPLES UNDER WHICH THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT CAME INTO BEING AND "ARE CONTRARY TO OUR OPPOSITION TO THE MILITARISTIC POLICIES OF THE BLOCS." ACCORDING TO TANJUG, THE GABONESE FOREIGN MINISTER'S STATEMENT "ALSO CONTAINED DOUBTS ABOUT THE NON-ALIGNMENT OF A 'CERTAIN COUNTRY' WHICH IS TO ORGANIZE THE NEXT NON-ALIGNED MEETING."

18. BENIN. BENIN'S FM ALEDAJE PRAISED YUGOSLAVIA FOR ITS ROLE IN THE NAM AND THE CHOICE OF BELGRADE AS THE LOCATION FOR THIS NAM MEETING. ACCORDING TO ALEDAJE, "EVERY SOVEREIGN COUNTRY HAS THE RIGHT, DEFENDING ITS INDEPENDENCE, TO SEEK OUTSIDE HELP." HE ALSO ATTACKED GABON FOR "EXPELLING 10,000 PEOPLE OF BENIN."

19. PUERTO RICO SOCIALIST PARTY. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PSP CHAPEL POINTED OUT THAT THIS NAM MEETING IS TAKING PLACE SHORTLY BEFORE THE UN SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON DECONOLIZATION WILL MEET. CHAPEL EXPECTED MEMBERS OF THE NON-ALIGNED AGAIN TO AFFIRM SUPPORT FOR THE INALIENABLE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE, AND THAT THEY WILL COMMIT THEMSELVES TO ASSIST IN THE "EFFORTS OF THAT COUNTRY TO CHANGE THE PRESENT SITUATION." CHAPEL RECALLED

PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS OF THE NON-ALIGNED IN WHICH THE STRUGGLE OF THE PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE FOR INDEPENDENCE HAS BEEN SUPPORTED, ESPECIALLY THE COLOMBO RESOLUTION. AT COLOMBO THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES HAD DEMANDED OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR DECOLONIZATION TO PROPOSE TO THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEASURES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UN RESOLUTIONS ON PUERTO RICO, REQUIREING THE USA TO REMOVE ITS MILITARY BASES AND TO CEASE "MANUEVERS WITH WHICH IT ATTEMPTS TO MAINTAIN THE COLONIAL STATUS OF THE ISLAND." CHAPEL ALSO EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE BELGRADE NAM MEETING, WHICH IS BEING HELD BEFORE THE SIXTH SUMMIT OF THE NON-ALIGNED IN HAVANA, WILL AGAIN LEND FULL SUPPORT TO THE STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISTS AND COLONIALISM.

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20. LATE EVENING JULY 28 PLENARY DEBATE. DURING THE LATE EVENING OF JULY 28, REPRESENTATIVES OF LIBERIA, OMAN, MOZAMBIQUE, ZAIRE AND SIERRA LEONE ADDRESSED THE PLENARY. THE OMAN REPRESENTATIVE, SULEIMAN, IDENTIFIED AS THE GREAT DIFFICULTY FOR THE NAM THE PRESSURE OF FOREIGN POWERS, AND "IN THAT CONTEXT HE CRITICIZED CERTAIN NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES WHO DO NOT ADHERE TO THE PRINCIPLES ON NON-ALIGNMENT." AS REPORTED SEPTEL, THE ZAIRE REPRESENTATIVE EXPRESSLY CRITICIZED CUBA FOR ITS AFRICAN ROLE AND SAID THAT ZAIRE WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN NEXT YEAR'S HAVANA SUMMIT.

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